AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1-55. (cancelled)

56. (currently amended) A method of identifying a DC-SIGN modulator, wherein the method comprises:

a) determining a baseline binding value for a viral effector molecule binding moiety by:

i. providing cultured cells comprising a DC-SIGN receptor;

ii. exposing the cultured cells to a marked viral effector molecule binding moiety for a period of time sufficient to allow binding equilibrium to be reached; and

iii. determining the extent of binding of the marked viral effector molecule binding moiety to the cultured cells to thereby determine ~~a~~ the baseline binding value;

b) determining ~~a test substance~~ a binding value for the viral effector molecule binding moiety in the presence of a test substance by:

i. providing cultured cells comprising a DC-SIGN receptor;

ii. exposing the cultured cells to ~~a~~ the marked viral effector molecule binding moiety in the presence of ~~a~~ the test substance for a period of time sufficient to allow binding equilibrium to be reached; and

iii. determining the extent of binding of the marked viral effector molecule binding moiety to the cultured cells to thereby determine ~~a~~ the ~~test~~

~~substance~~ binding value for the viral effector molecule binding moiety in the presence of the test substance; and

c) determining a test substance binding modulation value for the test substance by dividing the ~~test substance~~ binding value for the viral effector molecule binding moiety in the presence of the test substance by the baseline binding value, wherein a test substance binding modulation value representing an about 95% modulation of binding of the viral effector molecule to ~~dendritic~~ the cells by the test substance~~,~~ indicates that the test substance ~~is a substance that~~ substantially modulates the binding of a viral effector molecule to the DC-SIGN receptor.

57. (currently amended) A method of identifying a DC-SIGN blocker, wherein the method comprises:

a) determining a baseline binding value for a viral effector molecule binding moiety by:

i. providing cultured cells comprising a DC-SIGN receptor;

ii. exposing the cultured cells to a marked viral effector molecule binding moiety for a period of time sufficient to allow binding equilibrium to be reached; and

iii. determining the extent of binding of the marked viral effector molecule binding moiety to the cultured cells to thereby determine ~~a~~ the baseline binding value;

b) determining a binding value for the viral effector molecule binding moiety in the presence of a test substance by:

i. providing cultured cells comprising a DC-SIGN receptor;

ii. exposing the cultured cells to ~~a~~ the marked viral effector molecule binding moiety in the presence of a test substance for a period of time sufficient to allow binding equilibrium to be reached; and

iii. determining the extent of binding of the marked viral effector molecule binding moiety to the cultured cells to thereby determine ~~a~~ the ~~test substance~~ binding value for the viral effector molecule binding moiety in the presence of the test substance; and

c) determining a test substance binding inhibition value for the test substance by dividing the ~~test substance~~ binding value for the viral effector molecule binding moiety in the presence of the test substance by the baseline binding value, wherein a test substance binding inhibition value representing an about 95% inhibition of binding of the viral effector molecule to ~~dendritic~~ the cells by the test substance~~,~~ indicates that the test substance ~~is a substance that~~ substantially inhibits the binding of a viral effector molecule to the DC-SIGN receptor.

58. (currently amended) The method of claim 57 wherein the cultured cells are dendritic cells (DC).

59. (previously presented) The method of claim 57, wherein the cultured cells are THP-1 cells.

60. (previously presented) The method of claim 57, wherein the viral effector molecule is a Dengue virus effector molecule.

61. (previously presented) The method of claim 60, wherein the Dengue virus effector molecule is Dengue virus E glycoprotein.

62-72 (cancelled)

73. (new) The method of claim 56, wherein the cultured cells are dendritic cells (DC).

74. (new) The method of claim 56, wherein the cultured cells are THP-1 cells.

75. (new) The method The method of claim 74, wherein the THP-1 cells are THP-1 Δ35.

76. (new) The method of claim 56, wherein the viral effector molecule is a Dengue virus effector molecule.

77. (new) The method of claim 56, wherein the viral effector molecule is a flavivirus effector molecule.

78. (new) The method of claim 56, wherein the effector molecule is a West Nile virus effector molecule.

79. (new) The method of claim 78, wherein the effector molecule is a West Nile virus E glycoprotein.

80. (new) The method of claim 59, wherein the THP-1 cells are THP-1 Δ35.

81. (new) The method of claim 57, wherein the viral effector molecule is a flavivirus effector molecule.

82. (new) The method of claim 57, wherein the effector molecule is a West Nile virus effector molecule.

83. (new) The method of claim 82, wherein the effector molecule is a West Nile virus E glycoprotein.

84. (new) The method of claim 56, wherein the DC-SIGN receptor is DC-SIGN.

85. (new) The method of claim 56, wherein the DC-SIGN receptor is DC-SIGNR.

86. (new) The method of claim 57, wherein the DC-SIGN receptor is DC-SIGN.

87. (new) The method of claim 57, wherein the DC-SIGN receptor is DC-SIGNR.